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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/816,639	GRAHAM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mike Stahl	2874	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed March 6, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-9,11-22 and 24-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|---|--|

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. The application has been amended as follows:

- Replace claim 1 with the following version:

1. An apparatus, comprising;

an optically transparent member, the optically transparent member having:

an input configured to receive light; and

one or more facets formed in the optically transparent member, the one or more facets being configured to reflect light received at the input of the optically transparent member, the reflected light creating a lamina of light adjacent the optically transparent member,

wherein the one or more facets have an optically reflective surface, and

wherein the one or more facets have a surface that extends from the optically reflective surface to a light emitting surface on the optically transparent member, the height of the surface varying to reduce the amount of light blocked by first facet and received by a subsequent facet.

- Cancel claim 2.

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- Replace claim 20 with the following version:

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the predetermined angle ranges from zero to any angle within the TIR range of the material used to make the optically transparent member.

- Replace claim 22 with the following version:

22. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reflective surfaces of the one or more facets each have a different depth.

- Replace claim 28 with the following version:

28. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the optically reflective surface of the one or more facets has one of the following shapes: flat, converging, or diverging.

- Replace claim 34 with the following version:

34. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the optically reflective surface of the one or more facets are micro-mirrors.

Explanation: Applicant's amendment to claim 1 added the limitations of original claim 23, which was identified in the last Office action as containing allowable subject matter. However, the amendment did not include the subject matter of claim 2, from which original claim 23 also depended. This subject matter is important because it provides antecedent basis for "the optically reflective surface". Therefore, the examiner has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 2. Claim 2 has been canceled accordingly, and claims 22, 28,

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and 34 have been amended to depend from claim 1 instead of claim 2. Claim 20 has been amended to delete the unnecessary "a" between "to" and "any". These changes merely improve the clarity of the affected claims and are believed to be obvious in nature.


Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-22, and 24-40 are allowed. Their allowability is believed to be clearly established from the application history and no further comment by the examiner is considered necessary.

Conclusion

Inquiries about this letter should be directed to Mike Stahl at 571-272-2360. Inquiries of a general or clerical nature (e.g., a request for a missing form or paper, etc.) should be directed to the technical support staff supervisor at 571-272-1626. Official correspondence which is eligible for submission by facsimile and which pertains to this application may be faxed to 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Questions about the Private PAIR system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mike Stahl *MJS*
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2874
May 10, 2006


Rodney Bovernick
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800